

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 NEA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 NSCE-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01

NIC-01 SAB-01 BIB-01 ACDA-05 EB-07 AID-05 STR-01

CIEP-01 /106 W

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R 270855Z JAN 75

FM AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 988

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

USLO PEKING

USMISSION BERLIN

AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PROP, XF, UR, US, CH

SUBJECT: PROPAGANDA CHARACTERIZATION OF U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS,
MIDDLE EAST, AND CHINA

1. LENINGRAD PROPAGANDIST G. P. MOISEYEV REMARKED ON SEVERAL ASPECTS OF U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS IN SUNDAY, JAN 26, ZNANIYE SOCIETY PRESENTATION ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. IN GENERAL, PROPAGANDIST STRESSED INTENSIVE NATURE OF IDEOLOGICAL STRUGGLE IN YEAR AHEAD AND CALLED FOR GREATER VIGILANCE IN FACE OF BOTH CAPITALIST AND MAOIST DESIGNS. REGARDING COMMUNIST UNITY, HE LINED CONCLUSION OF CSCE WITH A FOLLOW-ON MEETING OF EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES IN BERLIN "DURING THE SUMMER OR A BIT LATER," WITH THE LATTER SERVING AS PREPARATION FOR
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SUBSEQUENT CONFERENCE OR WORLD COMMUNIST PARTIES.

2. VLADIVOSTOK AGREEMENTS ON STRATEGIC ARMS TERMED OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE; HOWEVER, MOISEYEV POINTEDLY NOTED THAT SOVIET PRESS HAD NOT PUBLISHED ANYTHING ABOUT AGREED NUMBERS OF STRATEGIC WEAPONS SINCE VLADIVOSTOK FIGURES WERE PRELIMINARY (PREDVARITEL' NIYE) WHICH HAD YET TO BE WORKED OUT IN GENEVA. PROPAGANDIST ADDED THAT WHEREAS US COULD THINK IN TERMS OF ONLY A SINGLE ENEMY NUMBER ONE, VIZ. SOVIET UNION, THE USSR HAD ALSO TO THINK OF "A NEIGHBOR" WHICH LIKEWISE POSED A THREAT.

3. CONGRESSIONAL ACTION RE US-SOVIET TRADE WAS BITTERLY CRITICIZED AND SOVIET DECISION NOT TO HONOR 1972 AGREEMENT TERMED A POSITION OF PRINCIPLE. DRAWING DISTINCTION BETWEEN CONGRESS AND ADMINISTRATION, PROPAGANDIST SAID MANY IN US RECOGNIZE THAT SENATOR JACKSON HAD CAUSED US LOSS RATHER THAN GAIN. HE NOTED THAT PREVIOUSLY FORECAST US-SOVIET TRADE VOLUME OF \$2 TO \$3 BILLION "NO LONGER REALISTIC" AND CONGRESSIONAL ACTION MEANT THAT ABOUT \$1 BILLION WAS MOST IT COULD BE.

4. RE MIDDLE EAST, PROPAGANDIST STATED THAT PRESIDENT FORD NOW GIVING MORE HELP TO ISRAEL THAN ANY PREVIOUS AMERICAN PRESIDENT, INCLUDING NIXON, "EVEN TO DETRIMENT OF US ARMED FORCES." POSSIBILITY OF US MILITARY ACTION IN AREA WAS ROUNDLY DAMNED. COMMENTING ON POSTPONEMENT OF BREZHNEV VISIT TO EGYPT, MOISEYEV SAID IT WAS TRUE THAT BREZHNEV HAD FALLEN SOMEWHAT ILL (ZABOLELSYA NEMNOZHKO), BUT THAT REAL REASONS FOR VISIT'S POSTPONEMENT WERE TWO: (A) THAT THE SITUATION ABRUPTLY (REZKO) CHANGED IN MID DECEMBER; AND (B) THAT US UNDERTOOK TO MAKE CERTAIN THREATS VIS-A-VIS ARAB COUNTRIES. ACKNOWLEDGING CERTAIN DIFFERENCES WITH EGYPT OVER BOTH INTERNATIONAL AND INTERNAL MATTERS, PROPAGANDIST SAID THAT SOVIET- EGYPTIAN RELATIONS NEVERTHELESS REMAIN FRIENDLY.

5. 1974 WAS TERMED YEAR OF STRUGGLE IN SINO-SOVIET RELATIONS WITH CHINESE MILITARY CONTINUING "HOOLIGAN" ACTIONS ON BORDER, WHERE SITUATION REMAINS VERY TENSE. CHOU EN-LAI RECEIVED BRICKBATS FOR ANTI-SOVIET STATEMENTS AT RECENT PEOPLE'S CONGRESS. SOVIET-CHINESE TRADE SAID TO CONTINUE AT EXISTING LOW LEVEL, ABOUT 200 MILLION RUBLES ANNUALLY.

NEUBERT

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